

PALMETTO HIGH

804 N. Hamilton Street
Williamston, SC 29697

GRADES 9-12 High School

ENROLLMENT 806 Students

PRINCIPAL Mason Gary 864-847-7311

SUPERINTENDENT Dr. W. R. Christopher 864-847-7344

BOARD CHAIR Mr. Fred G. Alexander 864-947-9346

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

2003

ABSOLUTE RATING:

EXCELLENT

Absolute Ratings of High Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
19	13	2	0	0

IMPROVEMENT RATING:

GOOD

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:

N/A

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEBSITES AT:

WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM

WWW.SCEOC.ORG

PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2001	Excellent	Excellent	N/A
2002	Good	Unsatisfactory	N/A
2003	Excellent	Good	N/A
2004			

TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

	Our School			High Schools with Students Like Ours		
Percent	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
Passed all 3 subtests	84.1	73.8	73.5	74.3	72.1	71.4
Passed 2 subtests	7.3	11.5	14.6	14.3	15.8	16.5
Passed 1 subtest	6.7	8.2	9.2	7.4	7.8	7.4
Passed no subtests	1.8	6.6	2.7	4.1	4.2	4.1

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

	Exit Exam Passage Rate by Spring 2003		Eligibility for LIFE Scholarships*		Graduation Rate	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
All Students	158	98.1	144	13.9	175	67.4
Gender						
Male	86	97.7	87	17.2	103	71.8
Female	72	98.6	57	8.8	72	61.1
Race or Ethnic Group						
African American	11	90.9	14	0.0	20	35.0
Hispanic	2	I/S	0	N/A	0	N/A
White	145	98.6	130	15.4	155	71.6
Other	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Disability Status						
Non-speech disabilities	2	I/S	15	0.0	24	12.5
Students without disabilities	156	98.1	129	15.5	151	76.2
Migrant Status						
Migrant	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Non-migrant	3	I/S	144	13.9	0	N/A
English Proficiency						
Limited English proficient	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Non-LEP	158	98.1	144	13.9	175	67.4
Lunch Status						
Subsidized meals	47	95.7	31	3.2	55	40.0
Full-pay meals	111	99.1	113	16.8	120	80.0

n = number of students on which percentage is calculated

ELIGIBILITY FOR LIFE SCHOLARSHIPS

Percent of	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Seniors eligible for LIFE Scholarships at four-year institutions*	13.9	18.8
Seniors who met the SAT requirement	13.9	19.4
Seniors who met the grade point average	63.2	58.4

*Using only the SAT and grade point average requirements

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with Students Like Ours	Median High School
Students (n= 806)				
Retention rate	3.7%	Down from 5.0%	6.6%	7.3%
Attendance rate	95.4%	Down from 97.4%	95.5%	95.5%
Eligible for gifted and talented	19.6%	Up from 16.3%	11.1%	5.1%
With disabilities other than speech	18.1%	Up from 18.0%	12.4%	12.2%
Older than usual for grade	5.6%	Up from 4.6%	7.3%	10.1%
Suspended or expelled	2.9%	Up from 2.1%	2.3%	2.3%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	21.0%	N/A	N/A	10.2%
Successful on AP/IB exams	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual dropout rate	3.9%	Up from 2.6%	2.9%	2.7%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	0.9%	Down from 1.4%	0.0%	3.2%
Enrollment in career/technology center courses	93	Down from 130	506	433
Students participating in worked-based experiences	46.6%	Down from 74.1%	29.2%	26.3%
Career/technology students mastering core competencies	81.3%	Down from 83.6%	77.1%	74.9%
Career/technology completers placed	N/A	N/A	100.0%	99.5%

Teachers (n= 46)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	54.3%	Up from 47.8%	56.5%	51.7%
Continuing contract teachers	87.0%	No change	84.6%	81.8%
Highly qualified teachers	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Teachers returning from previous year	86.5%	Up from 84.7%	87.3%	85.1%
Teacher attendance rate	96.7%	Up from 96.3%	96.3%	95.8%
Average teacher salary	\$39,034	Up 1.6%	\$40,966	\$40,303
Prof. development days/teacher	6.1 days	Down from 6.5 days	10.5 days	10.3 days

School				
Principal's years at school	4.0	Up from 3.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio	27.5 to 1	Down from 28.2 to 1	26.7 to 1	26.2 to 1
Prime instructional time	92.5%	Down from 93.1%	90.7%	90.1%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$6,626	Up 9.2%	\$6,092	\$6,279
Percent spent on teacher salaries*	48.6%	Down from 53.9%	59.3%	57.8%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No change	Excellent	Excellent
Parents attending conferences	98.9%	Down from 99.0%	85.2%	87.8%
SACS accreditation	yes	N/A	yes	yes

* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools	N/A	N/A
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools	N/A	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data							
N/A	Not Applicable	N/C	Not Collected	N/R	Not Reported	I/S	Insufficient Sample

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

The stakeholders of Palmetto High -students, parents, community and faculty - are continuing on a "Quest for Excellence." Each year we strive to make improvements in our curriculum, methods, programs, and professional development so that our students will be the ultimate benefactors. Below are a few examples to illustrate our efforts.

As a learning community we realize that it will take all of us working together for a common cause to reach excellence. We have just completed our second year with a Freshman Academy and our first year with our Sophomore Academy. As the results demonstrate, the academy approach to learning is a viable mode of instruction that is achieving excellent results. The percentage of ninth grade students earning six or more units in 2001-02 was at 96% and the number earning all eight credits was 88%. This year 93.4% earned six units and 82% earned all eight. This is laying a foundation for academic success that better meets the needs of our students and prepares them to stay on track for graduation four years later. Our next goal was to build upon the success of the Freshman Academy and to have our tenth graders earn sixteen credits or "16 at 16" as we labeled it. At the end of this school year 78% of our tenth graders had met this goal and 98% have earned twelve or more units. Due to the creation of these academies we should see a dramatic improvement in our graduation rate within two more years.

We will continue with the theme of "Making Connections" so that each student and faculty member will feel a part of the school. Each faculty member is assigned to a grade level in order to provide a personal contact for our students as they plan activities for their grade level. Another goal we have at Palmetto High is to maintain our family-friendly atmosphere. When we are all connected with our school and are working towards common goals, then excellence can be achieved!

Palmetto High has a student-centered focus and it is our desire to provide a diverse and challenging curriculum, meaningful and varied extra-curricular activities, and a family-friendly environment. We especially want to thank our parents for being our students' first and most important teachers and for the support that you give us each and every day. Also, thank you, community, for your untiring support in numerous capacities each year. We could not be the school that we are without you and thanks again. Let's all stay bound together as we try to achieve excellence and we look forward to another exciting year.

Mason Gary, Principal

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS

	Teachers	Students	Parents
Number of surveys returned	49	126	14
Percent satisfied with learning environment	93.6%	82.5%	91.7%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	98.0%	84.0%	81.8%
Percent satisfied with home-school relations	77.6%	83.1%	91.7%

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- **Excellent** - School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- **Good** - School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- **Average** - School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- **Below Average** - School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- **Unsatisfactory** - School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

DEFINITION OF ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

As required by the United States Department of Education, adequate yearly progress specified that the statewide target is met for all students and for each subgroup of students: racial/ethnic, economic, disability, limited English proficiency and migrant status.